

STATE SENATOR • RAYMOND E. BASHAM • 8TH DISTRICT

Basham Press Release

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For Immediate Release
State Senator Ray Basham

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BASHAM: AGREEMENT RESOLVES SCHOOL CROSSING DANGER

Railroads to Limit Crosswalk Blockages Outside Ecorse Middle and High Schools

LANSING- State Senator Ray Basham (D-Taylor) announced today that an agreement has been struck that should prevent trains from blocking pedestrian crosswalks outside Ecorse High School and Kennedy Middle School. Stopped trains have been frequently blocking pedestrian walkways outside the Ecorse schools and creating a safety hazard for local school children and other residents.

“We had a situation here where children were literally crawling over parked trains in an effort to make their way home from school,” said Sen. Basham. “It was only a matter of time before a terrible tragedy occurred.”

Under the new agreement, the Conrail, CSX, Norfolk Southern (NS) and Canadian National (CN) Railroads will coordinate efforts to reduce stoppages on the five tracks that merge at Salliotte Avenue outside Ecorse High and Kennedy Middle Schools. CN Railroad agreed to limit train movement south of River Rouge in order to reduce blockages at Salliotte. CN Railroad agreed to cut Salliotte Avenue crossings if the crossing is going to be blocked for more than ten minutes. All four railroads have agreed to meet quarterly to ensure that blockage problems do not reoccur.

“I’m extremely pleased that all parties involved decided to respond in a responsible manner to a serious public safety hazard,” said Sen. Basham. “I want to make sure the children of Ecorse can walk safely to and from school.”

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